Bounds on Cross-sections and Lifetimes for Dark Matter Annihilation and Decay into Charged Leptons from Gamma-ray Observations of Dwarf Galaxies

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We provide conservative bounds on the dark matter cross-section and lifetime from final state radiation produced by annihilation or decay into charged leptons, either directly or via an intermediate particle $\phi$. Our analysis utilizes the experimental gamma-ray flux upper limits from four Milky Way dwarf satellites: HESS observations of Sagittarius and VERITAS observations of Draco, Ursa Minor, and Willman 1. Using 90% confidence level lower limits on the integrals over the dark matter distributions, we find that these constraints are largely unable to rule out dark matter annihilations or decays as an explanation of the PAMELA and ATIC/PPB-BETS excesses. However, if there is an additional Sommerfeld enhancement in dwarfs, which have a velocity dispersion $\sim 10$ to 20 times lower than that of the local Galactic halo, then the cross-sections for dark matter annihilating through $\phi$'s required to explain the excesses are very close to the cross-section upper bounds from Willman 1. Dark matter annihilation directly into $\tau$'s is also marginally ruled out by Willman 1 as an explanation of the excesses, and the required cross-section is only a factor of a few below the upper bound from Draco. Finally, we make predictions for the gamma-ray flux expected from the dwarf galaxy Segue 1 for the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope. We find that for a sizeable fraction of the parameter space in which dark matter annihilation into charged leptons explains the PAMELA excess, Fermi has good prospects for detecting a gamma-ray signal from Segue 1 after one year of observation.

I. INTRODUCTION

While the evidence for non-baryonic dark matter is compelling on astrophysical scales, its microscopic nature remains unknown. One appealing possibility is that dark matter consists of particles interacting via the weak force (WIMPs). Such particles have an annihilation cross-section at freeze-out of $\sim 3 \times 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}$, and if these particles are in the mass range of about 10 GeV to 10 TeV, then this would yield the correct relic abundance of dark matter observed today. In addition, the hierarchy problem of particle physics suggests new physics beyond the Standard Model should enter on scales of 100 GeV to 1 TeV, providing additional motivation for the WIMP hypothesis. If dark matter consists of WIMPs, then it could annihilate or possibly decay into lighter particles which could be observed as gamma-rays, cosmic rays, or neutrinos. There are a host of current and planned instruments that have the potential to detect this signal via an observed excess of these annihilation or decay products. Such indirect search techniques complement direct dark matter detection experiments and attempts at accelerator-driven dark matter production.

Recent results from the PAMELA satellite indicate an excess of positrons between 10 GeV and 80 GeV [2], but no excess in anti-protons [4], above the background expected from cosmic ray nuclei interactions with the interstellar medium. This confirms earlier hints of a positron excess seen by other experiments [e.g., 3, 15, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41]. The balloon-borne experiment ATIC recently reported an excess of cosmic ray electrons plus positrons in the energy range of 300-800 GeV [2], confirming earlier excesses seen by PPB-BETS [8]. Since cosmic ray electrons and positrons loose energy rapidly through inverse Compton and synchrotron processes, the source of these excesses should be less than 1 kpc away [3]. It is possible for these excesses to be explained by conventional astrophysical objects such as nearby pulsars [10, 11, 12, 13, 14]. It is also possible that they may be the first indirect evidence of dark matter annihilations [e.g., 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32] or decays [e.g., 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41].

In light of the latter possibility, it has been shown that both PAMELA and ATIC/PPB-BETS, as well as a possible excess in microwave photons at the Galactic center dubbed the WMAP haze [42, 43, 44, 45], may be explained by a $\sim 1$ TeV dark matter particle which annihilates into charged leptons [24]. However, for this scenario to work, the annihilation cross-section in the Galactic halo must be boosted by factors of $O(100)$ beyond the freeze-out cross-section [24]. One suggestion is that this could be achieved via a velocity dependent cross-section through the mechanism of Sommerfeld enhancement [16]. This idea supposes that the $O(100)$ lower velocity dispersion in the Galactic halo as compared to the velocity at freeze-out could account for the necessary boost to explain these recent observations.

The main signal of interest in this work is the gamma-ray flux from final state radiation (FSR) by charged leptons produced in dark matter annihilations or decays. Here FSR is defined as photons directly radiated from the external legs (charged leptons) of the interaction. This signal has the advantage that the gamma-ray spectrum has a sharp cutoff at energies equal to the dark matter
mass and that the normalization and shape of the spectrum can be predicted without knowledge of the astrophysical environment [46]. In addition, for dark matter masses of a few hundred GeV, the FSR signal is relevant at high photon energies (> 100 GeV) making it accessible to Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes (ACTs).

We focus on dwarf galaxies because the largest FSR signal is expected from regions with the highest dark matter density. The Galactic center is a promising source, however it is difficult to separate dark matter produced gamma-rays from other astrophysical backgrounds toward the Galactic center, and there is wide uncertainty in the shape of the central dark matter density profile. However, dwarf galaxy satellites of the Milky Way are relatively nearby, are highly dark matter dominated with mass to light ratios of $O(10 - 100)$, and are largely free of astrophysical backgrounds as they have little warm or hot gas, minimal dust, and no magnetic fields [47]. In addition, their dark matter distributions can be inferred directly from stellar kinematics, and their velocity dispersions are of order $O(10)$ less than in the Galactic halo (see e.g. [48]), the latter of which could result in an order of magnitude larger boost of the annihilation cross-section if Sommerfeld enhancement is relevant.

In Section II we discuss the calculation of the gamma-ray signal from dwarf galaxies and provide the formulae we use to calculate the FSR signal. Section III reviews the most recent gamma-ray constraints from the ACTs HESS and VERITAS. In Sections IV and V we give conservative bounds on the dark matter annihilation cross-sections and decay lifetimes, respectively, for the channels HESS and VERITAS. In Sections IV and V, we give conservative bounds on the dark matter annihilation cross-sections and decay lifetimes, respectively, for the channels HESS and VERITAS. In Sections IV and V, we give conservative bounds on the dark matter annihilation cross-sections and decay lifetimes, respectively, for the channels HESS and VERITAS. In Sections IV and V, we give conservative bounds on the dark matter annihilation cross-sections and decay lifetimes, respectively, for the channels HESS and VERITAS.

We marginalize over $\sigma v$, $\Gamma$, $r_{\text{ch}}$, $E_{\text{th}}$, and $E_{\text{max}}$, and define the equivalent integral to eq. (2) over the density profile.

$$dN_\gamma dAdt = \frac{1}{8\pi} \mathcal{L}_{\text{ann}}(\rho^2, D, \frac{\langle \sigma v \rangle}{m_X^2}, E_{\text{th}}, E_{\text{max}}) dN_\gamma dE_\gamma$$

(1)

where $m_X$ is the dark matter particle mass, $\langle \sigma v \rangle$ is the annihilation cross-section, $E_{\text{th}}$ is the threshold energy of a given gamma-ray instrument, and $E_{\text{max}}$ is the maximum energy of the photons. The integral over $dN_\gamma dE_\gamma$ depends only on the particle physics details of the dark matter annihilation. $\mathcal{L}_{\text{ann}}$ is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{ann}} = \int_0^{\Delta \Omega} \left\{ \int_{\text{LOS}} \rho^2(r) ds \right\} d\Omega$$

(2)

and depends solely on the properties of the dark matter halo and the solid angle over which it is observed. Here $\rho(r)$ is the halo dark matter density profile, $r = \sqrt{D^2 + s^2 - 2sD\cos\theta}$ for a halo at a distance $D$, and the integral is performed along the line of sight over a solid angle $\Delta \Omega = 2\pi(1 - \cos \theta)$.

We will also be considering constraints on decaying dark matter from FSR. In this case, the $\gamma$-ray flux is analogous to the annihilating case with the following substitutions: $\langle \sigma v \rangle / (2M_X^2) \to \Gamma / M_X$ and in $\mathcal{L}$, $\rho^2 \to \rho$. We define the equivalent integral to eq. (2) over the density for the case of decays as $\mathcal{L}_{\text{dec}}$. Since decaying dark matter is sensitive to $\rho$ and not $\rho^2$, the dark matter constraints from gamma-ray observations will be weaker for the case of decays.

### A. Dwarf Galaxy Dark Matter Density Integrals

We determine the line-of-sight integral in eq. (2) from the kinematic data in the dwarf galaxies, in a manner similar to the analysis of [52]. For each galaxy we obtain the distribution of the factors $\mathcal{L}_{\text{ann}}$ and $\mathcal{L}_{\text{dec}}$ assuming a five-parameter density profile of the form

$$\rho(r) = \frac{\rho_0}{(\frac{r}{r_0})^a (1 + \frac{r}{r_0})^b}$$

(3)

We marginalize over $a, b, c, \rho_0, r_0$, with uniform priors, over conservative and plausible values for these parameters. The specific ranges for the shape parameters are $a = [0 - 1.5], b = [0.5 - 1.5], c = [2 - 5]$. Though numerical simulations produce cuspy profiles for cold dark matter (CDM) models, which profiles have $a \approx 1$ [53], we allow for a broader range to account for the fact that the dark matter we consider here may be produced non-thermally, may be self-interacting, or may be warmer than standard CDM. For Sagittarius, Ursa Minor, and Draco, the scale radius is fixed to be within the range $r_0 = [0.1 - 10]$ kpc, while for Willman 1 the scale radius is fixed to be within the range $r_0 = [0.01 - 1]$ kpc. For each galaxy, $\rho_0$ is set by the condition that the mass within 300 pc is fixed to the respective observed values [54]. It is important to
note that even though we assume a wide range for the parameters that determine the density profile, the velocity dispersion data fix the distribution of the line-of-sight integral to lie within a narrow range. Specifically, we find that including cored models only reduces the 90% confidence level lower limits, which we use below, by ~10% for each galaxy relative to a ≃ 1 models. This traces back to the fact that the stellar kinematics fixes the normalization of the density and density-squared for the dwarf dark matter halos, so that varying the inner slope has little impact on the final results [52].

The 1-dimensional stellar velocity dispersions, averaged over each of the respective galaxies, are listed in Table I. We find that the velocity dispersion of the stars is similar to that of the dark matter for these dwarf galaxies. Assuming the dark matter velocity dispersions are isotropic, we estimate the 3-dimensional dark matter velocity dispersions to be √3 times these values.

Two galaxies listed in Table I are worth commenting on. First, the satellite Willman 1 was discovered in 2004, and while there is evidence that this object is dominated by dark matter, better kinematic measurements are required to provide constraints on its dark matter distribution [53]. Second, it is clear that Sagittarius is currently being tidally-disrupted, and for an equilibrium model to be self-consistent the stars used in the analysis must be bound to the central core of the galaxy. To conservatively account for this issue, in our analysis we only use the stars from Ref. [56] within the bound region of ~0.4 kpc [57]. The remaining two dwarfs, Ursa Minor and Draco, are conclusively known to be dark matter dominated [58,59].

B. Final State Radiation Calculations

For FSR, for the dark matter annihilation channel χχ → ff, where f is a fermion, the photon energy spectrum is given by

$$\frac{dN_s}{dy} = \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \frac{1}{y} \left( \frac{1 + (1 - y)^2}{y} \right) \left( \ln \left( \frac{s(1-y)}{m_f^2} \right) - 1 \right) \quad (4)$$

Here α ≃ 1/137, y = Eχ/mχ, s = 4mχ, and Emax = mχ in eq. (4). This formula holds in the collinear limit, where the photon is emitted collinearly with one of the leptons and m_f ≪ mχ. For the decay channel χ → fφ → ffφφ [24,60], where φ is a light particle (resonance), we start with eq. (4), where now s = mφ and y is replaced by x = 2Eγ/mφ. This gives the FSR energy spectrum in the rest frame of each φ for the decay φ → ff. Next, we boost to the rest frame of χ, which essentially coincides with the Earth’s rest frame. The FSR photon spectrum in the χ rest frame is given by

$$\frac{dN_s}{dy} = 2 \int_{y}^{m_f-2m_f} dx \frac{1}{x} \frac{dN_s}{dx}, \quad (5)$$

which may explicitly be written as

$$\frac{dN_s}{dy} = 2\alpha \pi y \left[ y^2 + 2y \left( \text{Li}_2 \left( \frac{m_f - m_f}{m_\phi - m_f} \right) - \text{Li}_2 \left( y \right) \right) + (2 - y^2) \ln(1 - y) + \left( \ln \left( \frac{m_\phi}{m_f} \right) - 1 \right) \left( 2 - y^2 + 2y \ln \left( \frac{m_\phi - m_f}{m_\phi - 2m_f} \right) \right) \right]$$

$$- \frac{(m_\phi - m_f)(m_\phi - 2m_f)}{2m_\phi^2 - 3m_\phi m_f + m_f^2} \left[ 2m_f^2 \left( 2 - \ln \left( \frac{m_f^2}{m_\phi - 2m_f} \right) \right) \right]$$

$$- 3m_f m_\phi \left( \frac{4}{3} - \ln \left( \frac{m_f(m_\phi - m_f)}{(m_\phi - 2m_f)^2(1 - y)} \right) \right) + m_\phi^2 \left( 1 - \ln \left( \frac{(m_\phi - m_f)^2 y^2}{(m_\phi - 2m_f)^2(1 - y)} \right) \right) \]. \quad (6)$$

Here y = Eγ/mχ, m_φ > 2m_f, and the upper limit on the integral in eq. (4) corresponds to the maximum photon energy in the collinear limit, which approaches unity for m_f ≪ m_φ. For the decay channel χ → φφ → ffφφ, we have instead y = 2Eγ/m_φ. In eq. (1), E_{max} = (m_φ - 2m_f)m_χ for annihilating dark matter, and the corresponding formula for decaying dark matter has E_{max} = (m_φ - 2m_f)/2. Note that the factor of two appears in eq. (4) since there are two φ’s produced for each dark matter annihilation or decay.

An important observation is that smaller values of m_φ lead to a softer photon energy spectrum. We note that the FSR formula in eq. (4) receives O((2m_φ/m_χ)^2) corrections, which are small in the collinear limit but which become O(1) when m_φ is of the same order as 2m_f. We will ignore these corrections, since the only case considered in this paper in which they would be important is when the dark matter decays or annihilates first into a 250 MeV φ, which in turn decays into muons. In this case, however, the most important contribution to the photon energy spectrum is not from FSR off the muon,
but rather from the radiative decay of the muon, which we discuss below.

Note that we assume there is no contribution from internal bremsstrahlung, which we differentiate from FSR and define as photons directly radiated from the mediator(s) of the interaction. This is because we assume the mediator(s) of both the annihilation and decay channels are electrically neutral. For the channels that produce muons, we also include the effects of radiative muon decay, in which we have the decay channels $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \nu_\tau \gamma$ and $\mu^- \rightarrow e^- \nu_e \nu_\tau \gamma$. The photon spectrum in the muon rest frame has been calculated in [62] in the limit $r = m_\chi^2/m_\mu^2 \ll 1$. For unpolarized muons, it is given by (see also [51])

$$\frac{dN_\gamma}{dy} = \frac{\alpha}{3\pi} \frac{1 - w}{w} \left(3 - 2w + 4w^2 - 2w^3\right) \ln \frac{1}{r}$$

$$- \frac{17}{6} \frac{23w}{12} - \frac{101w^2}{12} + \frac{55w^3}{12}$$

$$+ \left(3 - 2w + 4w^2 - 2w^3\right) \ln(1 - w),$$

(7)

where $w = \frac{2E_\gamma}{m_\mu}$. For the annihilation or decay channel $\chi(\chi) \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$, the energy spectrum from radiative muon decay in the $\chi$ rest frame is to a good approximation obtained from eq. (7) as

$$\frac{dN_\gamma}{dy} = 2 \int_y^1 \frac{dN_\gamma}{w} \frac{1}{w} \frac{dN_\gamma}{dy},$$

(8)

where $y = \frac{E_\gamma}{m_\chi}$ in the case of annihilations, and $y = \frac{2E_\gamma}{m_\chi}$ in the case of decays. The factor of two appears in eq. (8) since two muons are produced in each annihilation or decay.

For the annihilation or decay channel via an intermediate step involving $\phi$, i.e. $\chi(\chi) \rightarrow \phi\phi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\mu^+\mu^-$, two boosts are required. The first boost takes us from the rest frame of the muon to the rest frame of the $\phi$: $\frac{dN_\gamma}{dx} = 2 \int_{2\sqrt{x}}^{\min(1, \sqrt{2x})} \frac{dN_\gamma}{w} \frac{1}{w} \frac{dN_\gamma}{dx}.$

(9)

where $x = \frac{2E_\gamma}{m_\phi}$, and $\beta = \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_\chi^2}{m_\phi^2}}$ is not necessarily close to one, and a second boost takes us to the rest frame of the $\chi$: $\frac{dN_\gamma}{dy} = 2 \int_y^1 \frac{dN_\gamma}{w} \frac{1}{w} \frac{dN_\gamma}{dy}.$

(10)

where again $y = \frac{2E_\gamma}{m_\chi}$ in the case of decays, or $y = \frac{E_\gamma}{m_\chi}$ in the case of annihilations. Note that for the second boost we assumed $m_\phi \ll m_\chi$.

The contribution to the photon spectrum from the radiative muon decay is subdominant to the FSR off the muon for $m_\chi \gg m_\mu$, if $\chi$ goes directly to muons, and for $m_\phi \gg m_\mu$, if $\chi$ goes to muons via $\phi$'s. For example, for $\chi\chi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$, the number of photons above 200 GeV coming from radiative muon decay is about (5%, 10%, 20%) compared to the number coming from FSR off the muon for $m_\chi = (500, 10^3, 10^4)$ GeV, respectively. (We chose to consider photons above 200 GeV since this is an appropriate threshold energy for VERITAS.) However, the radiative muon decay dominates the FSR off the muon if $m_\phi \sim m_\mu$ [31, 32], and also produces many photons that are much harder than the FSR contribution. For example, for $m_\phi = 250$ MeV, the number of photons above 200 GeV from radiative muon decay is about 35 and 10 times larger for $m_\chi = 10^4$ GeV and $10^5$ GeV, respectively, than the number coming from FSR off the muon calculated with eq. (10). For $m_\chi$ lighter than about 725 GeV, for the above case, there are no FSR photons off the muon above 200 GeV. However, there are photons above 200 GeV from radiative muon decay for even lower values of $m_\chi$. Thus, the above-mentioned $\mathcal{O}(1)$ correction to the FSR formula in eq. (10), which formally may be necessary when $m_\phi \sim m_\mu$, is negligible in this case, since the radiative muon decay dominates the signal.

For the channels that produce $\tau$'s, we only include the cases where $\chi$ annihilates or decays directly into $\tau^+\tau^-$. In addition to the FSR component, $\tau$ decays produce many $\pi^0$'s which each decay into two photons. We take the parametrization of the total photon spectrum from [64], which, for $m_\chi = 1$ TeV, these authors found to be from simulations

$$\frac{dN_\gamma}{dy} = y^{1.31}(6.94y - 4.93y^2 - 0.51y^3)e^{-4.53y}.$$

(11)

This parametrization is valid down to about $y = 0.01$ [64], where $y$ is defined as above. Although this is the

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dwarf</th>
<th>Velocity Dispersion</th>
<th>$\mathcal{L}_{\text{ann}}$</th>
<th>$\mathcal{L}_{\text{dec}}$</th>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>Flux Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$[\text{km s}^{-1}]$</td>
<td>$[\log_{10} \text{GeV}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{e}^{-4} \text{cm}^{-5}]$</td>
<td>$[\log_{10} \text{GeV}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2}]$</td>
<td></td>
<td>$[\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}]$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagittarius</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>19.35 ± 1.66</td>
<td>18.73 ± 1.44</td>
<td>HESS</td>
<td>$\Phi(E &gt; 250 \text{ GeV}) &lt; 3.6 \times 10^{-12}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draco</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>18.63 ± 0.60</td>
<td>17.51 ± 0.12</td>
<td>VERITAS</td>
<td>$\Phi(E &gt; 200 \text{ GeV}) &lt; 2.4 \times 10^{-12}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ursa Minor</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>18.79 ± 1.26</td>
<td>17.55 ± 0.36</td>
<td>VERITAS</td>
<td>$\Phi(E &gt; 200 \text{ GeV}) &lt; 2.4 \times 10^{-12}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willman 1</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>19.55 ± 0.98</td>
<td>17.51 ± 0.84</td>
<td>VERITAS</td>
<td>$\Phi(E &gt; 200 \text{ GeV}) &lt; 2.4 \times 10^{-12}$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE I: Line-of-sight stellar velocity dispersions and integrals over the mass density and density squared for four Milky Way dwarf galaxies. Also given are the gamma-ray flux upper bounds for each dwarf from observations with the two Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes HESS [50] and VERITAS [51]. $\mathcal{L}$ values given represent on minus off regions as defined in Section III.
parametrization of the spectrum for \( m_\chi = 1 \, \text{TeV} \), to a

- good approximation the shape of the spectrum as a function of \( y \) does not change much over the whole range of values we consider for \( m_\chi \) (a few hundred GeV to 10 TeV). In particular, the dominant contribution to the photon spectrum coming from the \( \pi^0 \) decays remains virtually unchanged, while the sub-dominant contribution from the FSR component changes only logarithmically as a function of \( m_\chi \), see eq. (4). Note that we also ignore any uncertainties in extracting the photon spectrum from simulations (see e.g. [41]).

III. GAMMA-RAY OBSERVATIONS FROM ATMOSPHERIC CHERENKOV TELESCOPES

In Table I we list the current upper bounds on the gamma-ray flux measured for each dwarf galaxy from various ACTs. The flux bound for the Sagittarius dwarf is from HESS using 11 hours of observation [50]. The bounds for Willman 1, Ursa Minor, and Draco are from recent VERITAS observations [53]. VERITAS observed Willman 1 for 15 hours and Draco and Ursa Minor for 20 hours each, and found gamma-ray flux upper limits for all three dwarfs at the level of 1% of the Crab Nebula [51].

- We determine the gamma-ray flux of the Crab Nebula above 200 GeV, which is the reported energy threshold of VERITAS, by integrating the power-law fit for the Crab Nebula of \( 3.2 \times 10^{-11} (E/\text{TeV})^{-2.49} \, \text{cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{TeV}^{-1} \) found by [63]. We list 1% of this value in Table I as the flux bounds for Willman 1, Ursa Minor, and Draco. Similar flux upper bounds for Willman 1 were found by the MAGIC telescope over 15.5 hours of observation [66]. MAGIC also observed Draco over 7.8 hours [67], and STACEE observed Draco for a total of 10.2 hours [68]. Both obtained flux bounds for Draco about an order of magnitude larger than VERITAS.

- To obtain the quantities \( \mathcal{L}_{\text{ann}} \) and \( \mathcal{L}_{\text{dec}} \) for each galaxy, we must subtract a background level from the signal region, where both the signal and background regions are specific to each ACT. In what follows we refer to the background region as the off mode, and the signal region as the on mode. For HESS, the on region is defined to be within a solid angle of 0.14° around the center of Sagittarius, while the off region is defined as an annulus 0.43 – 0.57° from the center of Sagittarius. For VERITAS observations, the corresponding on region is within a solid angle of 0.15° centered around each dwarf, while the off region is a ring with inner/outer radius of 0.4 – 0.5°. In principle, one must include the contribution from the diffuse Galactic halo. However, that we are considering satellites with angular extent much less than a degree, the contribution from the diffuse Galactic halo emission is similar for both the on and off regions, so our results do not depend on the normalization of the diffuse halo signal.

- Given the on and off regions above, we give the \( \mathcal{L}_{\text{ann}} \) and \( \mathcal{L}_{\text{dec}} \) values for each galaxy in Table I. More specifically, these are the respective maximum likelihood \( \mathcal{L} \) values for the on region minus the off region. In this way, we determine the distribution for the best fitting \( \mathcal{L} \) values for each galaxy, fully accounting for correlated error bars. We note that for the angular regions considered here, the background flux estimated from the off regions equals ~ 10% and 50% of the flux within the on regions for annihilation and decays, respectively. For each entry in Table I the error bars represent 90% confidence levels.

IV. ANNIHILATION CROSS-SECTION UPPER BOUNDS

- Figure I shows the dark matter annihilation cross-section upper bounds as a function of dark matter mass for the four dwarf galaxies for six different annihilation channels. We used the 90% confidence level lower limit on each \( \mathcal{L}_{\text{ann}} \) value to give very conservative cross-section upper bounds. The cross-section upper bounds were calculated using the FSR formulae given in equations (4).
and \([54\text{x}184]\), including radiative muon decay for channels that include muons. The weakest bounds are for the \(\chi \chi \rightarrow \phi \phi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-\) channel with \(m_{\phi} = 250\text{ MeV}\). (The same channel with \(m_{\phi} = 1\text{ GeV}\) (not shown) has a bound that is an order of magnitude stronger at \(m_{\chi} = 500\text{ GeV}\), and about 25% stronger at \(m_{\chi} = 10\text{ TeV}\).) Stronger constraints in general are found for the channels that annihilate directly into leptons without a \(\phi\) mediator, since here the photon spectrum is harder. However, a strong constraint can be found for \(\chi \chi \rightarrow \phi \phi \rightarrow e^+ e^-\) for the case where \(\phi\) is a scalar of \(O(100\text{ MeV})\) and mixes with the Standard Model Higgs, so that \(\phi\) decays to \(e^+ e^-\) with a branching ratio of about 90%, and directly to \(\gamma \gamma\) with a branching ratio of about 10%. [24, 63, 71]. The strongest constraint comes from annihilations into \(\tau\)’s, due to the large number of high energy photons produced in \(\tau\) decays to \(\pi^0\)’s. Note that we do not include any boosts from halo substructure here, which may strengthen the cross-section upper bounds by about a factor of 20 [24].

Among the four dwarfs we consider, the constraints from Willman 1 are the strongest. Compared to Willman 1, the constraints from Draco, Ursa Minor, and Sagittarius are weaker by a factor of roughly 3.5, 11, and 15, respectively.

We note that in the literature various values of \(\mathcal{L}_{\text{ann}}\) have been used to obtain constraints for Sagittarius, e.g. \(\mathcal{L}_{\text{ann}} \approx (6.4 \times 10^{18}, 4.9 \times 10^{19}, 1.5 \times 10^{21}) \text{ GeV}^2 \text{ cm}^{-5}\) assuming a (large core, NFW, small core) profile, respectively - see e.g. [22, 31, 32]. Our central value of \(\mathcal{L}_{\text{ann}}\) for Sagittarius is close to the value quoted for the NFW profile, while the 90% confidence level lower limit that we use to calculate the upper bounds in Figure 1 is about a factor of 13 less than the smallest of the quoted values (large core).

If we assume that the PAMELA, ATIC, and PPB-BETS signals are from dark matter annihilations, then one can calculate the dark matter mass and cross-section for each annihilation channel that best fits these data sets. To fit the PAMELA data alone, a wide range of \(m_{\chi}\) values give a good fit, so we focus on the ATIC/PPB-BETS constraints. For the channel \(\chi \chi \rightarrow e^+ e^-\), several authors find a best-fit of \(m_{\chi} \sim 700\text{ GeV}\) and \(\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim 6 \times 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}\) [22, 24, 31]. This cross-section is about one order of magnitude smaller than the conservative upper bounds shown in Figure 1 for Willman 1. For the channel \(\chi \chi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-\), the best-fit value of \(\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim 5 \times 10^{-23} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}\) for \(m_{\chi} \sim 1.5\text{ TeV}\) [22, 24, 31], is a factor of \(\sim 5\) smaller than the upper bounds from Willman 1.

If we have a \(\phi\) mediating the interaction, then the channel \(\chi \chi \rightarrow \phi \phi \rightarrow e^+ e^-\) gives best-fit values to the ATIC/PPB-BETS data of \(m_{\chi} \sim 1\text{ TeV}\) and \(\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim 1 \times 10^{-23} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}\) [24, 31, 32]. This cross-section is a factor of \(\sim 40\) below the Willman 1 bounds. For the case where \(\phi\) decays to \(\gamma \gamma\) with a 10% branching ratio, the best-fit cross-section is only a factor of \(\sim 5\) below that from Willman 1. Note that if Sommerfeld enhancement does not saturate at the local velocity dispersion of the Galactic halo, the lower velocity dispersions found in dwarf galaxies could boost the cross-section by a factor of \(v_{\text{local}}/v_{\text{dwarf}}\sim 10\text{ to }20\) depending on the dwarf. Both Willman 1 and Draco would then disfavor this latter channel as an explanation of the PAMELA and ATIC signals. For the channel \(\chi \chi \rightarrow \phi \phi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-\) , the best-fit value of \(\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim 7.5 \times 10^{-23} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}\) for \(m_{\chi} \sim 2.5\text{ TeV}\) [24, 31], is a factor of \(\sim 50\) below the Willman 1 bound. Again, if Sommerfeld enhancement is relevant at the velocity dispersions of dwarf galaxies, then the best-fit cross-section could be boosted by a factor of \(\sim 10\) to 20 in the dwarf, making it close to the current upper bounds.

Note that if the annihilation cross-section varies with velocity through a Sommerfeld enhancement, then a more careful analysis of the expected gamma-ray flux would allow for the cross-section to vary as a function of position within the dwarf galaxy [72]. This would entail including \(\langle \sigma v \rangle\) within the integral over the dark matter distribution in eq. (2). We find that using this more careful analysis gives expected boost factors of the same order of magnitude, within the solid angles of interest here, as we get from a more naive treatment using the ratio of
the average local and dwarf velocity dispersions.

Although channels which annihilate into $\tau$’s do not give a very good fit to the PAMELA/ATIC/PPB-BETS data [24], it may still be consistent to fit the data with, for example, a 1, 2, or 3 TeV dark matter particle with a cross-section of about $(3, 10, 20) \times 10^{-23} \text{cm}^2\text{s}^{-1}$, respectively [22, 24]. These best-fit cross-sections are $\sim 1$ to 2 times larger than the upper bounds from Willman 1 (and only $\sim 2$ to 3 times smaller than the bounds from Draco), marginally ruling out dark matter annihilations into $\tau$’s as a possible explanation of the data.

We emphasize that the 90% upper bound on $L_{\text{ann}}$ is larger than the 90% lower bound by about one to three orders of magnitude, depending on the dwarf. It is thus perfectly conceivable that further ACT observations will see a gamma-ray signal from at least some of these dwarfs if dark matter is responsible for the PAMELA/ATIC anomalies.

V. DECAY LIFETIME LOWER BOUNDS

In Figure 2 we give the lower bounds on the dark matter decay lifetime as a function of dark matter mass. Again we used the 90% confidence level lower limit for each $L_{\text{dec}}$ value to give very conservative bounds. The channels are the same as those given in Figure 1 except that one dark matter particle decays into leptons or $\phi$’s. For decays, the 90% lower bounds are strongest from Draco, with Ursa Minor and Sagittarius providing the same constraints within a factor of a few. Willman 1 has about a factor of 5 weaker constraints than Draco.

If the PAMELA, ATIC and PPB-BETS signals are from dark matter decays, then one can calculate the dark matter mass and decay lifetime that best fits the data. For the channel $\chi \chi \rightarrow e^+ e^-$, values of $m_{\chi} \sim 1.5$ TeV and $\tau \sim 10^{26}$ sec are found to best fit the data sets [35, 38]. This decay lifetime is 2 to 3 orders of magnitude above the lower bounds given by the dwarf galaxies, depending on the dwarf. For the $\chi \chi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ channel, best-fit values of $m_{\chi} \sim 2$ TeV and $\tau \sim 10^{26}$ are found [35, 38], again 2 to 3 orders of magnitude above the lifetime lower bounds given by the dwarfs. Best-fit values for $\chi \chi \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$ are $m_{\chi} \sim 5$ TeV and $\tau \sim 5 \times 10^{25}$ [35, 38], where the lifetime is about a factor of 20 above the current bounds from Draco. We see that the gamma-ray constraints from dwarf galaxies do not currently constrain the parameter region of interest for decays. However, the 90% upper bound on $L_{\text{dec}}$ can be an order of magnitude larger than the 90% lower bound that we used to set these constraints (depending on the dwarf), so that the gamma-rays from decays to, for example, $\tau$’s could conceivably be seen from dwarfs.

VI. PREDICTIONS FOR FERMI

In this section, we discuss the prospects for the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope to detect gamma-ray signals from dwarf galaxies, assuming that the dark matter annihilates into charged leptons. Previous work on the Fermi detection prospects of a gamma-ray signal from dark matter annihilations or decays include e.g. [58, 73, 74], and e.g. [73, 70, 77] in the context of dwarf galaxies.

A disadvantage of the Fermi Large Area Telescope (LAT) over the ACTs is that its effective area is only $1 \text{m}^2$ [78] compared with the effective area of the ACTs which is $\sim 10^5 \text{m}^2$. However, an advantage of the Fermi LAT over the ACTs, besides covering the whole sky, is that the LAT will detect photons with energies down to about 100 MeV [78], while the ACTs only detect photons that are above around a hundred GeV. Since the photons
expected from dark matter annihilations are never more than the mass of the dark matter, Fermi would in principle be able to detect lower mass dark matter particles than the ACTs. Fermi would become especially important compared to the ACTs in the case that only the PAMELA data is caused by dark matter and the explanation of the ATIC/PPB-BETS data is due to something else. This is because a dark matter particle with a mass of $O(100 \text{ GeV})$ can explain the PAMELA data, whereas a mass above around 700 GeV is required to explain the combined PAMELA/ATIC/PPB-BETS data.

Here, we will present the detection prospects for one recently discovered particularly promising dwarf galaxy, Segue 1 [49]. This satellite is at a distance of 23 kpc from the Sun at a galactic latitude of $\sim 50.4^\circ$ and has an observed half-light radius of $\sim 30 \text{ pc}$ [22]. It has a measured 1-dimensional stellar velocity dispersion of $\sim 4.3 \text{ km/s}$ [19]. Segue 1 has only 24 stars with measured line-of-sight velocities [49], so that its $\mathcal{L}$ value will be less constrained than any of the previous four objects we have considered. Using the same formalism as in Section II, we find for Segue 1:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{ann,Seg}} = 10^{20.17 \pm 1.44} \text{ GeV}^2 \text{ cm}^{-5}. \quad (12)$$

Here we have assumed an on region of $0.2^\circ$ centered on Segue 1, and have not performed a background subtraction as above when considering ACT limits. This is appropriate when discussing predictions for Fermi as there is no background subtraction in the same fashion as with the ACTs.

In Figure 4 we show with solid black lines the expected gamma-ray flux from Segue 1 as a function of the annihilation cross-section and dark matter mass for the dark matter annihilation channels $\chi \chi \rightarrow e^+ e^-$, $\chi \chi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$, $\chi \chi \rightarrow \phi \phi \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+ e^-$ (with $m_\phi = 5 \text{ MeV}$), and $\chi \chi \rightarrow \phi \phi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$ (with $m_\phi = 250 \text{ MeV}$). We took $E_{\text{th}} = 100 \text{ MeV}$ in eq. (1), and used the central value of $\mathcal{L}_{\text{ann,Seg}} = 10^{20.17} \text{ GeV}^2 \text{ cm}^{-5}$ in eq. (12). In Figure 4 we show the same channels but with $E_{\text{th}} = 5 \text{ GeV}$. For both figures we assumed that Fermi will be able to detect and reconstruct photons up to 1 TeV in energy.

To estimate the ability of Fermi to detect gamma-rays from a dwarf galaxy requires a careful analysis of the response function of the LAT to the particular gamma-ray signal from the dwarf. Such a careful analysis is beyond the scope of this work, and we content ourselves with a more simple estimate of Fermi’s sensitivity, which is possible with a few reasonable assumptions. First, we assume that the dwarf is a point source. Next, we assume that the publicly available point-source sensitivity as a function of galactic latitude and threshold energy is also applicable in this case, even though it was calculated assuming a 1/E$^2$ spectrum at the source [78] (the FSR signal in eq. (1) has a dependence more like 1/E). With these assumptions, the flux sensitivity for Fermi to detect a point source at high galactic latitudes with a 3$\sigma$ significance after 1 year of observation is about $2.4 \times 10^{-9} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ for $E_{\text{th}} = 100 \text{ MeV}$, and about $1.2 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ for $E_{\text{th}} = 5 \text{ GeV}$. The flux sensitivity is better at higher threshold energies, at least up to about 5 GeV, above which the sensitivity remains roughly constant. The background to calculate these sensitivities was assumed to be uniform with an integrated gamma-ray flux above 100 MeV given by $1.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$ and with a spectral index of -2.1 [34]. We indicate the respective sensitivities in Figures 3 and 4 with dashed lines.

From Figure 3 we see that generally the 5 GeV energy threshold is able to probe more of the cross-section versus mass parameter space than an energy threshold of 100 MeV. The only exception to this is for very low dark matter mass (10’s of GeV) for the $\chi \chi \rightarrow \phi \phi$ channel, with $\phi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ and $m_\phi \sim m_\mu$. In this case the higher energy threshold removes more of the signal than the background.

An exciting prospect is that Fermi could detect a gamma-ray signal from Segue 1 if dark matter annihilations are responsible for the PAMELA signal and/or the ATIC/PPB-BETS signal. In Figures 3 and 4 the dotted lines indicate the approximate values for the annihilation cross-section and mass suggested by the PAMELA data for the different channels (the ATIC preferred region is, very roughly, a subset of this line). These regions are based on the results found in [34], and include an extrapolation to larger masses. (By including only a line
instead of an extended region, we ignore the uncertainties in fitting to the PAMELA data - see e.g. [22].) For the channel $\chi\chi \rightarrow e^+e^-$, an $O(100 \text{ GeV})$ dark matter particle has an annihilation cross-section suggested by the PAMELA data that is large enough to give a gamma-ray signal detectable with Fermi, assuming a 5 GeV threshold energy. The cross-sections required to explain the PAMELA data with the channel $\chi\chi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ are about a factor of two below the one-year $3\sigma$ detection sensitivity for masses of a few hundred GeV, but lie right at the detection sensitivity for masses of several TeV. With a few years of data, the low mass regions can also be detected. If dark matter annihilations directly into $\tau$'s (not shown) are responsible for the PAMELA and/or ATIC/PPB-BETS excesses, then Fermi can detect the resulting gamma-ray signal with about one year of data with higher than $5\sigma$ significance.

For the annihilation channels via $\phi$'s, the gamma-ray signal tends to be smaller so that longer observations with Fermi may be required. However, these channels may receive an additional Sommerfeld enhancement to the annihilation cross-section in Segue 1 (up to a factor of ~30), compared to the local annihilation cross-section required to fit the PAMELA data. We indicate the PAMELA preferred regions including the additional maximum Sommerfeld enhancement with dot-dashed lines in Figures 3 and 11. With the additional boost in Segue 1, the preferred cross-sections may well be large enough for the gamma-ray signal to be detectable by Fermi. A subtlety in calculating the maximum additional Sommerfeld boost in Segue 1 is that the enhancement saturates for velocities smaller than about $m_\phi/m_\chi$. Saturation does not have to occur for the case $\chi\chi \rightarrow \phi\phi \rightarrow e^+e^-e^+e^-$ as $m_\phi$ can be as small as a few MeV, allowing for a large additional Sommerfeld boost at the dwarf for all $m_\chi$ of interest. However, for the case $\chi\chi \rightarrow \phi\phi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\mu^+\mu^-$, $m_\phi$ must be at least a few hundred MeV, which suggests that the Sommerfeld enhancement would already saturate locally in our halo for dark matter masses of only a few hundred GeV. However, for larger dark matter masses, an additional enhancement up to a factor of ~30, may occur in Segue 1 (see Figures 3 and 4).

We note that the discussion in the previous two paragraphs assumed that the $L$ value for Segue 1 is the central value given in eq. [12]. Since this value has a large uncertainty, the prospects for detection may be either more pessimistic or more optimistic than presented here. Moreover, note that it is easy to rescale the expected gamma-ray flux from Segue 1 to estimate the flux from other dwarf galaxies. Ignoring the subtleties of the background subtraction, which are small for annihilations, the rescaling factor is given by the ratio of a particular dwarf's $L_{\text{ann}}$ value in Table 1 to the $L_{\text{ann}}$ value of Segue 1 in eq. [12]. Since $L_{\text{ann}}$ is generally smaller for the other dwarf galaxies than for Segue 1, the prospects are reduced for Fermi to detect a gamma-ray signal from them. However, given the uncertainties in the dwarf’s dark matter distribution, it is conceivable for Fermi to detect a signal from, for example, Sagittarius and Willman 1. Moreover, it is also possible that as of yet undiscovered nearby dwarf satellites with very large mass-to-light ratios could first be detected with Fermi through their gamma-ray signal from dark matter annihilations.

In addition to determining the total flux above some energy threshold, Fermi may determine the differential photon flux $d\Phi/dE$ (which is proportional to $dN/dE$) as a function of energy. Determining $d\Phi/dE$ would be helpful in determining whether a detection is a result of dark matter annihilation or is from another source. For example, the photon spectrum from FSR in the channel $\chi\chi \rightarrow ff$ plotted as $E^2dN_e/dE$ is unmistakable, since it has an edge at the mass of the dark matter particle. A detection of such an edge would provide compelling evidence that the signal comes from FSR caused by dark matter annihilating into leptons, in addition to providing a measurement of the dark matter mass.

Finally, we note that Segue 1 also presents an excellent target for ACTs, which in general are more sensitive than Fermi in detecting a gamma-ray signal from dark matter annihilations in dwarf galaxies if the dark matter mass is above the energy threshold of the ACTs. An ACT able to achieve the same kind of sensitivity as VERITAS did with observations of Willman 1, Draco, and Ursa Minor, could potentially detect a gamma-ray signal from Segue 1 if the dark matter annihilates into charged leptons. Segue 1 may be a particularly good target for the MAGIC instrument, so we give the background subtracted $L$ values for Segue 1 relevant for MAGIC. These are

$$L_{\text{ann}} = 10^{20.04 \pm 1.40}\text{ GeV}^2\text{cm}^{-5}$$

for annihilations, and

$$L_{\text{dec}} = 10^{17.80 \pm 0.68}\text{ GeV}\text{cm}^{-2}$$

for decays. These numbers assume an on-region of 0.1°, and a background region of the same area centered 0.8° away from the center of the dwarf, which are the on and off regions applicable to the MAGIC telescope [60].

VII. CONCLUSIONS

We provided conservative bounds on the dark matter annihilation cross-section and decay lifetime from final state radiation produced by dark matter annihilation or decay into charged leptons, and discussed the implications of our constraints for the dark matter explanation of the PAMELA and ATIC/PPB-BETS excesses. We used the experimental gamma-ray flux upper limits for four Milky Way dwarf satellites: HESS observations of Sagittarius and VERITAS observations of Draco, Ursa Minor, and Willman 1. We find that for the channels where dark matter annihilates either directly into electrons or muons, or through an intermediate particle (resonance), which we call $\phi$, the cross-section bounds from the dwarf galaxies do not currently rule out this form
of dark matter as an explanation of the PAMELA and ATIC/PPB-BETS excesses. However, if the mechanism of Sommerfeld enhancement is relevant for the factor of \( \sim 10 \) to 20 lower velocity dispersions in dwarf galaxies as compared to the local Galactic halo, then the cross-sections of dark matter annihilating through \( \phi \)'s required to explain the excesses are very close to the cross-section upper bounds from Willman 1. Dark matter annihilation directly into \( \tau \)'s is also marginally ruled out by Willman 1 as an explanation of the excesses, and the required cross-section is only a factor of a few below the upper bound from Draco. Dark matter decays as an explanation of the observed excesses are currently not constrained by gamma-ray observations of these dwarf galaxies.

We note that since the uncertainty in the gamma ray flux coming from the uncertainty in the dwarf dark matter distribution is about 1-3 orders of magnitude, depending on the dwarf, we have provided rather conservative constraints by using the lower value of the expected fluxes. However, it is possible that further observations by Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes of various dwarf galaxies could see a gamma-ray signal from dark matter annihilations [80] (see also [77]).

We also make predictions of the gamma-ray flux expected for the Fermi satellite from the dwarf galaxy Segue 1, which may provide one of the strongest signals from dark matter annihilations in dwarfs, and is thus also an excellent target for the Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes. We find that in a sizeable fraction of the parameter space in which dark matter annihilation into charged leptons explains the PAMELA excess, Fermi has good prospects for detecting a gamma-ray signal from Segue 1 after one year of observation.

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